

PRESS RELEASE

ALIPH: an initial envelope of USD 2 million to protect Ukraine's cultural heritage and support its heritage professionals

Geneva, 7 March 2022 – Since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine, ALIPH has been in close contact with courageous Ukrainian heritage professionals as well as European and international organizations and institutions such as UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOM, ICOMOS, Blue Shield International, and Europa Nostra to identify and support concrete actions for the protection of the invaluable heritage of this country. As many sites, monuments, and museums have already been damaged, this conflict raises serious concerns about its consequences on Ukraine's entire cultural heritage. ALIPH has therefore allocated an initial envelope of USD 2 million to contribute to the emergency protection of this heritage and help Ukrainian heritage professionals on the ground.

While the situation is evolving rapidly and the fighting is intensifying, ALIPH is already supporting a dozen museums and their collections through the financing of, among others, inventories, the purchase of protective equipment, or the reinforcement of storage security, and will continue to do so. ALIPH is also working with its partners to set up an emergency support program for heritage professionals.

“As a terrible war rages in Ukraine, our thoughts go first and foremost to the victims and to the people of Ukraine. However, our mission to protect this country's exceptional heritage — representing as it does the very soul of this fighting nation — remains just as crucial. ALIPH is approaching this crisis in the same spirit that has driven the Foundation's operations since inception five years ago: namely, to be as impactful, concrete, and agile as possible in order to protect this unique heritage and its professionals. Right now, we are in a race against time”. – Valéry Freland, Executive Director of ALIPH.

For all grant related enquiries, please contact us at grants@aliph-foundation.org.

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About ALIPH

The International alliance for the protection of heritage in conflict areas (ALIPH) is the main global fund exclusively dedicated to the protection and rehabilitation of cultural heritage in conflict zones and post-conflict situations. It was created in 2017 in response to the massive destruction of cultural heritage over the past decade, predominantly in the Middle East and the Sahel. ALIPH is a public-private partnership assembling several countries and private donors. Based in Geneva, this Swiss foundation also benefits of the privileges and immunities of an international organization, thanks to a headquarters agreement signed with the Swiss Confederation. To date, ALIPH has supported more than 150 projects in 30 countries (for instance, Iraq, Yemen, Mali, Afghanistan, Sudan, Libya, North-East Syria) on 4 continents. ALIPH finances concrete projects carried on on-the-ground, hand in hand with local partners, authorities, and communities. The ultimate goal is that cultural heritage protection contributes to peace and sustainable development.

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